

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and the following remarks are presented to place this application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 and 12-30 are in present application. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Claim 11 has been cancelled. Claims 31-33 were previously withdrawn from consideration in response to a restriction requirement.

Attached hereto as an Appendix entitled "Version with Markings Showing Changes Made," is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this Amendment.

Claims 1-8, 13, 14, 17, 19-23, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawthorne (U.S. Patent 4,672,436) in view of McNelley et al. (U.S. Patent 5,550,754). However, the present invention is distinguishable over Hawthorne and McNelley for at least the following reasons.

In response to the Examiner's argument on page 3 of the Office Action that the claims fail to recite the combined GUI video data, claims 1 and 20 have been amended to include "the

display-ready video signal comprising the image pickup signal and a graphic user interface (GUI)." (Claims 1 and 20) Hence, in the present invention "the display-ready video signal [is] generated at said video camera by combining the image which is currently captured with the GUI image information prior to being transmitted to the display device." (Claims 7 and 22) The Examiner asserts that Hawthorne inherently shows a display-ready video signal generating means on the viewfinder 42 of the camcorder 22. (Office Action page 2) However, Applicants believe Hawthorne only displays a video image on the viewfinder and does not disclose displaying a "display-ready video signal" as defined in the present invention as including a GUI. Although McNelley does disclose a graphic user interface, he does not disclose or suggest combining the GUI with the video image. (Column 4, Lines 31-40)

Further, the present invention's commander has "command information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of command information." (Claim 1) Whereas, McNelley does not disclose a memory (storage means) in the handset. (Column 7, Lines 39-65)

Moreover, the present invention's commander has "moving state detecting means for detecting movements of the commander brought about by the user." (Claims 1 and 20) The Examiner has provided Kitajima (U.S. Patent 5,109,249) as evidence that it is well known in the art to include a detector in a camera system to detect movement of a device. (Office Action page 3) Although Kitajima does disclose a "moving state detecting means," the detector is located in the camera and is used to reduce picture blurring. By contrast, the present invention's detector is located in the commander (remote control) and is used by the commander to "generat[e] command information based on the movements detected by said moving state detecting means." This command information is then transmitted to the video camera. Applicants believe this use

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of a "moving state detecting means" in a remote control to generate commands for a video camera is not known in the art.

Regarding claims 17 and 29, the Examiner contends that Hawthorne's transmission of the image corresponds to the present invention's "controlling means accept[ing] the command information part of the information received by said receiving means and ignores the remainder of the received information." However, the present invention clearly delineates between command information and the video image. Thus, Hawthorne fails to disclose the transmission of command information as claimed in the present invention.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, Hawthorne and McNelley fail to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

Claims 9-12 and 24-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawthorne in view of McNelley and further in view of Blades et al. (U.S. Patent 5,990,888). The Examiner relies upon Blades solely to meet the pointer limitation in dependent claims 9 and 24. However, since claims 9, 10, 12, and 24-26 depend from independent claims 1 and 20, the claims should be allowed in view of the foregoing discussion.

Claims 15-16 and 27-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawthorne in view of McNelley and further in view of Anderson et al. (U.S. Patent 6,249,316). The Examiner relies upon Anderson solely to meet the edit, image pickup, standby, and recording mode limitations in dependent claims 15-16 and 27-28. However, since claims 15-16 and 27-28 depend from independent claims 1 and 20, the claims should be allowed in view of the foregoing discussion.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawthorne in view of McNelley and further in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent 5,008,756). The Examiner relies upon Nakamura solely to meet the display device microphone limitation in dependent claims 18. However, since claim 18 depends from independent claim 1, claim 18 should be allowed in view of the foregoing discussion.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

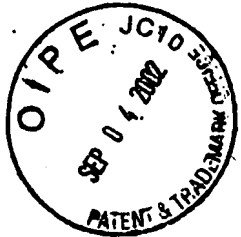
Respectfully submitted,
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Appendix
Version with Markings Showing Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claim 11.

Please amend claims 1, 7, 17, 20, 22, and 29 as follows:

- 1. (amended) An image pickup system comprising a commander, a video camera and a display device;
- wherein said commander includes:
- a microphone for obtaining an audio signal;
- moving state detecting means for detecting movements of the commander brought about by the user;
- command information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of command information;
- command information generating means for generating a plurality of kinds of command information which correspond to a plurality of different operations performed by a user, the generation of the command information being carried out on the basis of said plurality of kinds of command information which are stored in said command information storing means; said command information generating means generating command information based on the movements detected by said moving state detecting means; and
- transmitting means for transmitting said audio signal and said command information as transmitted information;
- wherein said video camera includes:
- image pickup means for obtaining an image pickup signal by imaging and object;

receiving means for receiving said transmitted information;
recording and reproducing means for recording and reproducing said image pickup signal to and from a recording medium;
image information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of image information;
display-ready video signal generating means for generating a display-ready video signal based on the image pickup signal reproduced from said recording medium by said recording and reproducing means and said image information; the display-ready video signal comprising the image pickup signal and a graphic user interface (GUI);
transmitting means for transmitting said display-ready video signal;
controlling means for controlling said image pickup means, said recording and reproducing means and said display-ready video signal generating means in accordance with any one of a plurality of operation modes; and
an operation mode setting switch for setting one of said plurality of operation modes; and
wherein said display device includes:
receiving means for receiving said display-ready video signal transmitted from said transmitting means of said video camera; and
displaying means for displaying an image represented by the received display-ready video signal.—

—7. (amended) An image pickup system according to claim 1, wherein said image information storing means stores a plurality of kinds of image information constituting a graphic

user interface capability; the display-ready video signal being generated at said video camera by combining the image which is currently captured with the GUI image information prior to being transmitted to the display device.—

—17. (amended) An image pickup system according to claim 1, wherein, in accordance with each of said plurality of operating modes, said controlling means accepts [a specific] the command information part of the information received by said receiving means and ignores the remainder of the received information.—

—20. (amended) An image pickup apparatus comprising:

image pickup means for obtaining an image pickup signal by imaging an object;

receiving means for receiving a signal which is supplied from an external device and which includes command information;

wherein said external device is a commander, having:

moving state detecting means for detecting movements of the commander

brought about by the user;

command information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of command information;

command information generating means for generating a plurality of kinds of command information which correspond to a plurality of different operations performed by a user, the generation of the command information being carried out on the basis of said plurality of kinds of command information which are stored in said command information storing means; said command information generating

means generating command information based on the movements detected by said
moving state detecting means; and
transmitting means for transmitting an audio signal and said command
information as transmitted information;
recording and reproducing means for recording and reproducing said image
pickup signal to and from a recording medium;
image information storing means for storing a plurality of kinds of image
information;
display-ready video signal generating means for generating a display-ready video
signal based on the image pickup signal reproduced from said recording medium by said
recording and reproducing means and said image information;
transmitting means for transmitting said display-ready video signal;
controlling means for controlling said image pickup means, said recording and
reproducing means and said display-ready video signal generating means in accordance
with any one of a plurality of operation modes; and
an operation mode setting switch for setting one of said plurality of operation
modes.—

—22. (amended) An image pickup apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said image
information storing means stores a plurality of kinds of image information constituting a graphic
user interface capability; the display-ready video signal being generated at said image pickup
apparatus by combining the image which is currently captured with the GUI image information
prior to being transmitted to the display device.—

—29. (amended) An image pickup apparatus according to claim 20, wherein, in accordance with each of said plurality of operating modes, said controlling means accepts [a specific] the command information part of the information received by said receiving means and ignores the remainder of the received information.—